

NORTHWEST ISD

AT A GLANCE

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Goals 2

Message from the Superintendent 2

Board of Trustees 3

Academic Success 4

Career & Technical Education 6

Staff 8

Technology 10

Athletics 11

Growth 12

Bond 14

Safety & Security 16

Finance 18

Fine Arts 20

Community Relations 22

Communications 26

Northwest ISD Education Foundation 28



WELCOME
to Northwest ISD

Northwest Independent School District, home to more than 30,000 students across 34 campuses, provides premier educational services and opportunities to families in the northwest corridor of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

With a vision of empowering learners and leaders to positively impact the world, Northwest ISD remains committed to providing all students with an education that prepares them for the future – whether in college, the workforce or military. That commitment extends beyond schools, as the district mission is to collaborate with students, families, communities and global partners to engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.

Families who live in Northwest ISD enjoy a community-focused atmosphere where children are welcomed by caring teachers. Core subjects are joined by a multitude of career and technical education offerings, culminating with academies and pathways that provide students with skills needed for life after graduation. Award-winning extracurricular offerings in athletics and fine arts encourage students to explore their passions and push boundaries.

A key aspect of the modern Northwest ISD story revolves around the district's growth. Through the combination of 1,000 to 1,500 new students joining the district's total enrollment each year as well as developers constructing thousands of new homes in the district's boundaries annually, Northwest ISD ranks as the fastest-growing school district in North Texas. This growth helps the district attract and retain the best teachers and support staff in the state. With rapidly growing housing options, families come to Northwest ISD not just for its renowned education, but also for its attractive living environment.

While the district looks forward to its future, it also advances using the lessons of unity from its past. Northwest ISD's lineage traces its roots to the late 1800s, when local schools were created to serve children as the population grew amid new railroads, general stores and livery stables. In 1948, the state voted to approve the formation of Northwest ISD through the one-school districts of Haslet, Justin, Rhome and Roanoke voluntarily consolidating together, with New Fairview (then known as Fairview) agreeing to join the new district the following year. Northwest ISD formally began operations in 1949, and in 1950, construction began on a consolidated high school.

Encompassing 234 square miles, Northwest ISD serves all or part of 14 cities, towns or communities. These include Aurora, Haslet, Justin, New Fairview, Newark, Northlake, Rhome and Trophy Club, along with portions of Flower Mound, Fort Worth, Keller, Roanoke, Southlake and Westlake. As one of the largest school districts in the area, Northwest ISD's geographical area extends into three counties: Denton, Tarrant and Wise.



GOAL 1:

Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experiences and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student.

GOAL 2:

Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.

GOAL 3:

Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families and community members.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

NISD families and community members,

Our district has many great aspects, but the people inside Northwest ISD will always rank as our greatest attribute. Whether it's the students who attend our schools, the teachers educating our future leaders or our community members who volunteer to support children, the people are what provide Northwest ISD with an unrivaled community atmosphere.

As we enter the 2023-2024 school year, we have a lot to be proud of. Voters approved a historic $1.995 billion bond package to sustain our facility needs for the next 8,400 students, our students continue to outpace performance metrics across the state and participation in extracurricular activities is providing tremendous experiences for our students. All of this is possible only thanks to our tremendous community.

As you read through this iteration of Northwest ISD At A Glance, know that this is a special school district to be part of. Our teachers and staff strive to meet the needs of all students, adhering to our first core belief of "kids come first." That focus permeates through all of our actions, from retaining and recruiting quality teachers to providing secure buildings with industry-leading safety initiatives that parents and guardians can trust.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools, and thank you for taking the time to learn about our district. Northwest ISD values our community, and we know that strong schools are built upon strong partnerships between students, families, teachers, staff and community members.

Sincerely,

Mark Foust, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As a public school district, Northwest ISD is steered by a group of elected community leaders called the Board of Trustees. This group, commonly referred to as the district's school board, provides support and guidance to lay the framework of success for Northwest ISD students.

Board members set clear expectations and promote excellence by setting goals, reviewing policies and procedures, and serving the best interests of NISD students and staff. Northwest ISD's board members come from diverse backgrounds, from retired educators to private sector professionals. Several board members have lived in Northwest ISD for their entire lives, while others joined more recently, representing the unique perspective each brings to their role.

School board members are elected to a three-year term of office, on a 2-2-3 rotating basis. Seats are filled during the May election, and members are elected to at-large positions representing the entire district. The school board can be emailed at **schoolboard@nisdtx.org**.



R. STEPHEN SPROWLS
PRESIDENT
Elected 2017



MARK SCHLUTER
VICE PRESIDENT
Elected 2006



DEANNE HATFIELD
SECRETARY
Elected 2019



JUDY COPP
Elected 2012



ANNE DAVIS-SIMPSON, PH.D.
Elected 2013



JENNIFER MURPHY
Elected 2020



LILLIAN RAUCH, PH.D.
Elected 2014

PREPARING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Northwest ISD prides itself on having a rigorous but attainable curriculum that prepares students for future success after they graduate. From early childhood to high school, every campus level prepares students for their long-term goals.

Literacy stands at the core of all our academic objectives, as reading serves as a fundamental skill in almost any life or career path. Additionally, from the earliest ages, children are prepared with skills such as critical thinking, collaboration and self-sufficiency to build core skills relevant to any future paths. As students advance, they learn more about each core subject – including language arts, math, science, social studies and more – with a standard curriculum that ensures parity at all campuses.

Once at the secondary level, more options open up to explore potential post-graduation paths. Our district's award-winning career and technical education programs allow students to explore their passions and gain real-world experience. Students can gain experience in a broadcast studio at the Creative Media Production Academy, learn about aerospace industries at the Aviation and Aeronautics Academy, or cook in a real restaurant at the Culinary Arts & Hospitality Academy.





NISD Launches Community-Based Accountability Dashboard

Northwest ISD's community of students, families, staff and residents remain committed to educating the whole child. To provide our community with a background on the areas it values most, the Northwest ISD Community Accountability Dashboard will offer informative statistics and details relevant to the areas that matter most to our community. To view the Community Accountability Dashboard, visit www.nisdtx.org/dashboard.

16 GRADS EARNED **ASSOCIATE** DEGREES WHILE STILL IN **HIGH SCHOOL**

AP, ONRAMPS & DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS EARNED **14,531** COLLEGE CREDIT **HOURS** VALUED AT **$5.6M**



CAMPUSES RECEIVE PRE-K ADDITIONS

Northwest ISD greatly expanded its pre-K offerings during the 2023-2024 school year by implementing full-day pre-K for all students eligible for the state-funded program. To make room for the increased early childhood enrollment, the district has added pre-K classrooms at elementary schools across the district and will build four early childhood centers in the coming years, one for each geographic portion of the district (north, south, east and west).

Students enrolled in Northwest ISD's pre-kindergarten program will establish positive relationships with teachers and peers, build vocabulary knowledge through hands-on experiences and participate in a variety of activities using thinking, reasoning, remembering, problem solving, number concepts and counting skills.

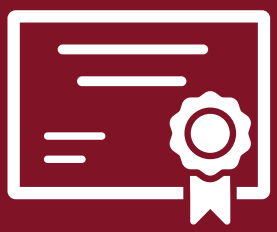
Northwest ISD Career and Technical Education's academies and programs of study empower students to immerse themselves in their field of interest through hands-on learning, field-based experiences and internships.

5,181

CERTIFICATIONS EARNED in the

22-23

SCHOOL YEAR



BNHS - 1634
EHS - 1488
NHS - 1682
STEELE - 377

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

ACADEMIES

Aviation and Aeronautics Academy
Housed at Eaton High School

Students will explore modern military and commercial aviation in high-demand, high-wage fields meeting Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards.

Biomedical Sciences Academy
Housed at Byron Nelson High School

Students will focus on the study of biology and medicine to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in the healthcare field, such as researching and diagnosing diseases, pre-existing conditions or other determinants of health.

Business Management and Entrepreneurship Academy
Housed at Eaton High School

Students will build a business as part of the next generation of socially responsible entrepreneurs and global business leaders seeking and finding innovative solutions to today's challenges.

Cosmetology Academy
Housed at Steele Early College High School

The Cosmetology Academy is available to students from every NISD high school starting their junior year. Juniors will attend the Cosmetology Academy at Steele for the first three class periods of the day, then return to their main high school campus to complete their final four academic classes. Students will have the opportunity to become licensed cosmetologists after a two-year plan of study.

Creative Media Production Academy
Housed at Northwest High School

Students in the Creative Media Production Academy can choose from three course sequences: audio/video production, commercial photography, and graphic design and illustration.

Culinary Arts and Hospitality Academy
Housed at Byron Nelson High School

Students will craft innovative dishes alongside professional chefs using advanced industry equipment. Students will also have the opportunity to work in the Byron Bistro, a student-operated enterprise located inside Byron Nelson High School.

STEM Academy
Housed at Northwest High School

Students will bring their ideas to life while designing, building, and testing solutions for complex engineering challenges.







PATHWAYS

Accounting and Financial Services
Discover how to manage personal wealth and financial stability for business. Investigate financial principles, systems, and processes for business operations and personal financial responsibility.

Advanced Manufacturing and Machinery Mechanics
Partner with structural, mechanical, electrical and industrial engineering firms to gain real-world experience.

Animal Science
Enhance your passion working within diverse animal industries using preventative medicine, advanced therapeutic techniques and injury treatment.

Applied Agricultural Engineering
Create one-of-a-kind metal art designs from start to finish for a wide variety of customers using large scale machines.

Architectural Design
Visualize, design and construct 3D models and generate a wide range of full-color prototypes, prints and 3D computer-aided drawings.

Business Management
Develop foundational business knowledge, industry recognized skills and explore the responsibilities and rewards of being a manager for an organization.

Design and Multimedia Arts
Create vibrant illustrations, animations, drawings, logos, ads and traditional art for dynamic visual media.

Digital Communications
Gain job-specific training for entry level employment in audio, video, television and film.

Early Learning
Explore the fascinating world of working with children aged four and younger.

Family and Community Services
Investigate complex social and emotional challenges to understand their effects on individuals, communities and society.

Healthcare Diagnostics
Students will earn their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification.

Healthcare Therapeutic
Students will earn their Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) certification.

Networking Systems
Design, install and troubleshoot complex network systems.

Plant Science
Create innovative art using flowers imported from around the world.

Programming and Software Development
Work individually and in teams to develop and engineer the code that powers the modern world.

Teaching and Training
Teach and coach side by side with professional educators in a variety of school settings. Upon completion of this program, students will earn their Educational Aide I Certification and a Northwest ISD Priority Interview Certificate.

HOME TO THE BEST **EDUCATION STAFF** IN THE STATE

Northwest ISD proudly employs more than 3,000 of the best teachers and staff members in the state. Many of these individuals have earned regional, state and national recognition for their abilities and hard work.

Each year, the top educator at each campus is recognized through the district's Inspire Celebration, which also recognizes retirees and individuals celebrating milestone work anniversaries at Northwest ISD. Additionally, the district annually crowns an Elementary Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year. For the 2022-2023 school year, Roanoke Elementary School's Paola Morales earned Elementary Teacher of the Year, while Steele Early College High School's Amberley Tanner earned Secondary Teacher of the Year.

As the fastest-growing school district in North Texas, we always seek out top-tier professionals to join our team and help prepare students for the future. We also know the people most passionate about helping local children are those who already live in the area. Through our Grow Our Home program, Northwest ISD seeks to recruit local talent to serve as teachers or other professionals.

The Grow Our Home program works with several groups who want to earn their teaching certification, including existing district guest educators and paraprofessionals as well as local community members. Additionally, the program works with high school students in our education pathway to potentially recruit them to return to their home district after they graduate college and earn their teaching certification.

For more information about Grow Our Home, visit www.nisdtx.org/hr.









UPDATED **COMPENSATION PLAN** INCREASES TEACHER PAY

In June 2023, Northwest ISD trustees approved the district's 2023-2024 compensation plan designed to recruit and retain top talent, including a 3% midpoint raise for full-time staff and a starting teacher salary of $60,100.

The 2023-2024 midpoint increase marks the second-largest annual increase to Northwest ISD employee salaries in the past six years. In addition to salary increases, the district increased its contribution to medical insurance by $25 per month for each employee on a district health plan to offset cost increases set by TRS. This increase brings the district contribution to $325 per month.

Before approving the compensation plan, Northwest ISD and its trustees spent more than a year analyzing market trends and public education salaries in the North Texas region, with a goal of increasing staff compensation to the top levels of the region. The district plans to continue analyzing area salaries to ensure district teachers feel appropriately compensated.



EMPOWERING STUDENTS WITH **TECHNOLOGY:**

A GLIMPSE INTO NORTHWEST ISD'S INNOVATIVE APPROACH

At Northwest ISD, students are at the heart of district technological advancements. As a 1:1 school district, our team provides each learner with a technology device. This decade-long commitment set the stage for a personalized approach to instruction.

Northwest ISD's learning management systems, Canvas and SeeSaw, form the backbone of the district's digital ecosystem. These platforms enable teachers to engage students by fostering innovation, collaboration and critical thinking about the world around them.

The integration of digital tools goes beyond students, as district educators are well-equipped with both laptops and iPads. These iPads serve as versatile tools, allowing teachers to instruct from any corner of the classroom. This teaching approach positions educators at the heart of the learning experience, enabling them to provide immediate support and foster active engagement.

Protecting student data is a top priority at NISD. We take data privacy seriously and have stringent measures in place to safeguard sensitive information. Cybersecurity is also paramount, and we are proud to have recently received the Cyberstar certification from the Texas Department of Information Resources, making NISD one of only five school districts in the state to earn the honor. This certification underscores our commitment to protecting the digital assets of our students and staff.

Technology isn't confined to the virtual realm alone. Our district also integrates technology with physical security to provide a safe learning environment. Ongoing technology safety projects include one-touch lockdown systems, silent panic alert buttons in all classrooms, door sounders and security camera upgrades.

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Northwest ISD offers a wide variety of athletic opportunities for the district's enrolled student body. A total of 31 different sports — ranging from baseball to wrestling — are available between middle school and high school levels. During the 2022-2023 school year, 83 student-athletes signed NCAA National Letters of Intent to continue their athletic and academic pursuits in college.

BASEBALL:
BNHS: 6A Regional Semifinals
NHS: 5A Bi-District Qualifiers

BOYS BASKETBALL:
BNHS: 6A Regional Finals
NHS: 5A Area Qualifiers

GIRLS BASKETBALL:
BNHS: 6A Area Qualifiers
NHS: 5A Regional Quarterfinals

CROSS COUNTRY:
BNHS: 6A Boys and Girls Team Regional Qualifiers
EHS: 6A Girl Individual State Qualifier, 6A Girls Team Regional Qualifiers
NHS: 5A Boy Individual Regional Qualifier

FOOTBALL:
BNHS: 6A Regional Quarterfinals
NHS: 5A Bi-District Qualifier

GOLF:
BNHS: 6A Girls Regional Qualifiers, 1 Boy Regional Qualifier
EHS: 1 6A Boy Regional Qualifier
NHS: 1 5A Boy Regional Qualifier

SOCCER:
BNHS: 6A Boys Regional Quarterfinals
BNHS: 6A Girls Regional Semifinals
NHS: 5A Boys Regional Quarterfinals
NHS: 5A Girls Area Qualifiers

SOFTBALL:
BNHS: 6A Bi-District Qualifier
NHS: 5A Regional Finals

SWIM AND DIVE:
BNHS: 13 6A Regional Qualifiers
EHS: 3 6A State Qualifiers, 18 Regional Qualifiers
NHS: 8 5A State Qualifiers, 21 Regional Qualifiers

TEAM TENNIS:
BNHS: 6A Area Qualifiers

TRACK:
BNHS: 1 6A State Qualifier (Bronze Medalist), 21 Regional Qualifiers
EHS: 22 6A Regional Qualifiers
NHS: 4 5A State Qualifiers, 18 Regional Qualifiers

VOLLEYBALL:
BNHS: 6A Regional Quarterfinals
EHS: 6A Bi-District Qualifiers
NHS: 5A Area Qualifiers

WRESTLING:
BNHS: 2 6A State Qualifiers (Silver Medalist)
EHS: 1 6A State Qualifiers
NHS: 5A Girls State Champions, 10 State Qualifiers (2 Silver Medalists)
NHS: 1 5A Boy Individual State Champion, 6 State Qualifiers



The Northwest High School girls wrestling team won the UIL 5A Girls Wrestling State Championship. It marked the first team state championship in NHS history and the first team wrestling state championship in Northwest ISD history.

DISTRICT RETAINS RANKING AS FASTEST-GROWING IN NORTH TEXAS

2033: 43,355
2023: 29,442
2013: 17,730

According to demographic projections, Northwest ISD ranks as the fastest-growing school district in North Texas, and its annual growth rate indicates it may stay atop that list for a decade or more.

Over the past two decades, Northwest ISD has grown by an average of 1,200 new students to the district's total enrollment per year. Following the pandemic, in 2021-2022, Northwest ISD grew by more than 2,000 students. Zonda, the district's demographer, projects the district will see a leveling of enrollment increases, with 1,400 to 1,600 new students expected to join the district per year. Combined with developers constructing thousands of new homes annually, Northwest ISD has retained its ranking as the fastest-growing school district in North Texas.

Northwest ISD surpassed the 30,000-student milestone on the first day of the 2023-2024 school year, and the district may eclipse the 31,000-student mark this year as well. While the number marks a new high for the district, the expectation of families has always remained the same – quality educational services.

"We've heard time and time again from people moving to the area that Northwest ISD schools are a big reason why," explained Tim McClure, assistant superintendent for facilities. "Families appreciate the work we've done to instill a community atmosphere in all our schools. The strong academic standards and offerings, such as our academy system, as well as all the extracurricular opportunities available also draw families' attention."

As the district continues to see increasing growth, it works with a community-led committee to determine how to best meet the needs of students entering the district. Community feedback remains vital to Northwest ISD's operations, and families can expect consistent communication about growth-related projects.





FIVE SCHOOLS OPEN TO KICK OFF SCHOOL YEAR

Families in five communities were welcomed with new schools to start the 2023-2024 school year, capping off the largest single year of construction projects in district history.

Of the five schools, three are brand-new campuses: Johnie Daniel and Molly Livengood Carter elementary schools as well as C.W. Worthington Middle School. Two replacement campuses expanded the sizes of existing schools, with Seven Hills and Hatfield elementary schools opening new buildings to serve their existing communities.

All four of the new elementary schools use the district's newest design featured in Berkshire, Haslet and Lance Thompson elementary schools. This design makes extensive use of collaboration areas and open learning opportunities to encourage teamwork and leadership. It also features an easy-to-navigate layout for students and families. Worthington Middle School expands on the recent Adams Middle School design with its own unique layout, but borrowing from that school's collaboration and extracurricular features.

In addition to new school buildings, construction crews have embarked on the biggest update to Northwest High School in the school's history. The first component of the renovated and expanded school opened in August with the new CTE and classroom wing, while other additions will open in phases through 2025. More information about all active projects can be seen at www.nisdtxconstruction.org.

22 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

7 MIDDLE SCHOOLS

COMPREHENSIVE **3** HIGH SCHOOLS

1 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



BOND APPROVAL SETS COURSE FOR 8,400 NEW STUDENTS

In May 2023, Northwest ISD voters approved all referendums of a bond proposal that will chart the course for the next 8,400 students to join the school district.

As part of the proposal, 12 schools will be built, including a high school, a middle school, four new elementary schools, two replacement elementary schools and four early childhood centers. With growth occurring across Northwest ISD, the new schools will provide relief for existing campuses as they near their student capacities.

Notably, the four early childhood centers mark the first facilities of their kind in Northwest ISD. While all elementary schools are adding additional space for pre-kindergarten students, these standalone facilities will be designed exclusively for pre-K students as well as employee daycare. The four facilities will be located in a different portion of the district – north, south, east and west.

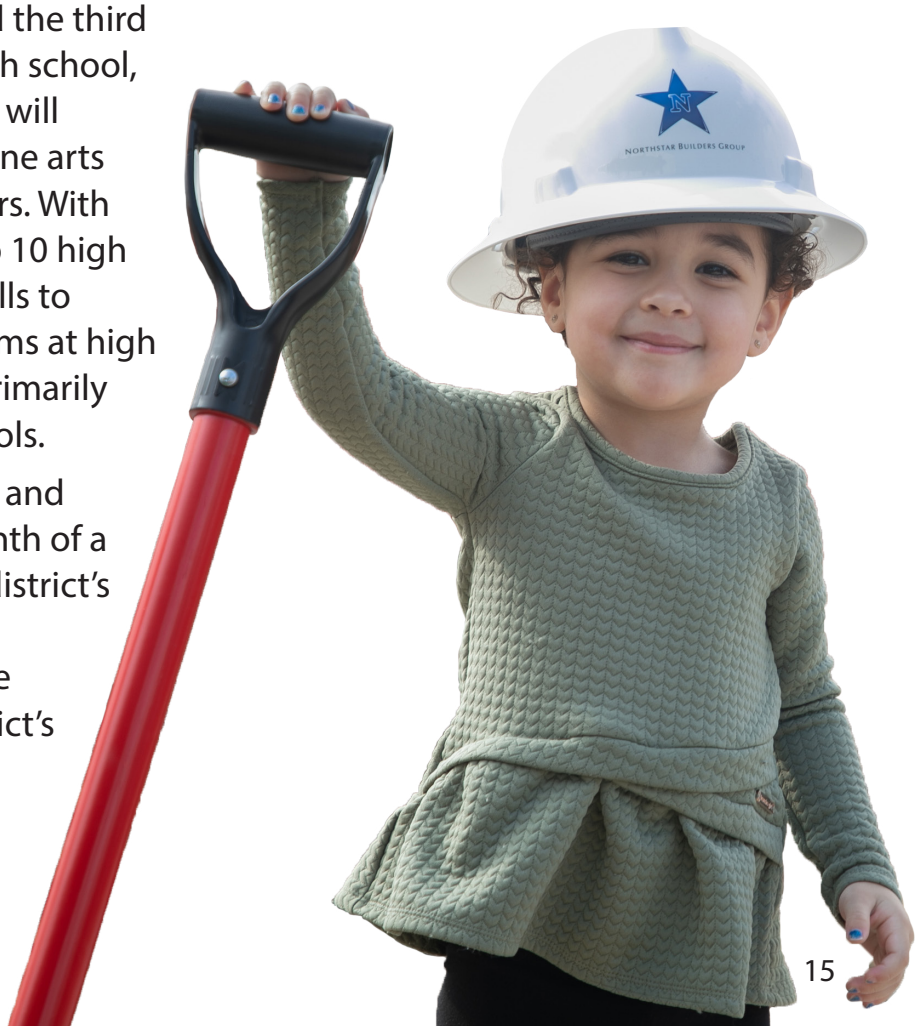
"I'm grateful Northwest ISD voters turned out in historic numbers for the May election and voted in favor of our children and our schools," said Dr. Mark Foust, superintendent of schools. "Our community understands that as the fastest-growing school district in the area, we regularly build new schools and facilities to keep pace with growth. We look forward to welcoming the 8,400 new students who will join our district that the projects in this bond package will accommodate."

In addition to new schools, voters also approved three home stadiums – two to replace existing sub-varsity stadiums at

Byron Nelson and Eaton high schools and the third at the district's fourth comprehensive high school, expected to open in 2027. These facilities will support a variety of outdoor sports and fine arts programs with seating for 7,000 spectators. With Northwest ISD expected to reach eight to 10 high schools at buildout, voters took to the polls to determine whether to build home stadiums at high schools or district stadiums that would primarily focus on football but serve multiple schools.

With voter approval, the district's interest and sinking tax rate increased by only one-tenth of a penny per $100 property valuation. The district's overall tax rate still declined by 18 cents because of decreases on the maintenance and operation tax rate fueled by the district's overall tax base growth.

For more information on all projects approved in the 2023 bond referendum, visit www.nisdtx.org.



KEEPING OUR NISD COMMUNITY
SAFE & SECURE

While educating students remains our core focus in Northwest ISD, safety and security remains the first priority, because for students to learn, they must first exist in a safe environment.

Our district believes safety and security requires a combination of personnel, hardware and technology to actively address emergency mitigation/prevention, preparedness, response and recovery procedures relevant to natural and human-caused disasters. Additionally, our district maintains close partnerships with local law enforcement agencies for added support.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NISD'S SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN INCLUDE:

Safety Coordinators: In addition to the district's executive director and director of safety and security, each comprehensive high school feeder pattern is supported by a safety and security coordinator. This individual provides guidance to campuses for safety and security initiatives, responds to emergencies and leads training initiatives.

Armed Security Guards: Each Northwest ISD elementary school is served by an armed security guard who monitors entrances to the building. Armed security guards are exclusively on school grounds for protection, including monitoring external entries. These guards also work with the school to maintain a positive and welcoming environment.

School Resource Officers: Each Northwest ISD comprehensive high school has two SROs, while Steele Early College High School and middle schools each have one SRO. These SROs also assist elementary campuses, and they are contracted through partnerships with local police departments to provide strong support.

Secure Entries: All Northwest ISD schools feature secure entries, meaning multiple locked points of entry exist before visitors can reach students. First, a visitor must buzz into the front office to receive entry, then they must sign in at the front desk to be approved to enter the main area of the building.

Interior Locks: Classrooms in every school feature interior locks to allow teachers to keep unwanted visitors outside of the classroom. Only campus and district staff and law enforcement have keys to rooms.

Enhanced Security Cameras: Northwest ISD operates a replacement lifecycle for cameras, meaning they are replaced on intervals to provide high-quality imaging that can assist law enforcement when needed.

Security Call Center: Several security team members staff a district call center that can monitor all outgoing 911 calls originating from Northwest ISD schools. This information is relayed to district and school leaders, SROs and any additional individuals as needed. The same team keeps these groups aware of events through a messaging system with real-time updates to emergency situations.

SMART Tags: Each student who rides an NISD bus is provided with a SMART Tag that tracks their ridership on the bus. Students scan the tag when they enter and exit the bus, and the system ensures he or she is riding the appropriate bus. This technology also provides parents with knowledge of where their student and his or her bus are located in real time.

First Responder Access: Northwest ISD partners with area law enforcement agencies to ensure first responders have digital key access to appropriate buildings. Additionally, our district has secure boxes where first responders who lack keys can gain entry to the building.

Mapping of Buildings: Our district has mapped our buildings with specialized photographic technology to provide law enforcement and firefighters with the ability to know exactly where they're going inside a school or facility.







WHAT'S NEXT?

Northwest ISD includes safety and security initiatives in bond packages and replaces outdated hardware and technology when necessary. Our community can expect cameras to be replaced on regular lifecycles, as well as security enhancements on existing buildings.

Currently, the district is in the process of implementing door ajar notification systems for all buildings and panic alert buttons in each classroom. With the door ajar system, if a door is left open and unlocked, staff members would receive notification alerts to close the door. Panic alert buttons would allow each classroom to alert authorities if necessary.

A long-term project Northwest ISD technology and facility teams are in the process of implementing is a connected alert system for emergencies. Through this system, TVs, digital signage, lights and more would act in concert when an emergency occurs.

LOWEST TAX RATE
IN THREE DECADES

Northwest ISD taxpayers will continue to see the lowest tax rate in more than three decades following school board approval of a roughly 18-cent reduction in the total tax rate.

At their August 28, 2023, meeting, the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees approved the district's recommendation to decrease the total tax rate to $1.0902 per $100 of taxable property value, reduced from the 2022-2023 tax rate of $1.2746. The new tax rate is composed of a maintenance and operations tax rate of $0.6692 and an interest and sinking tax rate of $0.4210.

In Texas, M&O tax rates pay for day-to-day operations of school districts, such as salaries and utilities, while I&S tax rates are used to pay off debt, such as paying off bonds. While voters authorized the district to increase the I&S tax rate by one-tenth of a penny in the 2023 bond election, the total tax rate still decreased because of continued M&O tax rate compression required by state law.

School district M&O tax rates are primarily determined by the state government based on a formula. Northwest ISD's fast growth has played a beneficial role in this formula, as increasing property values compresses the M&O tax rate. The second part of the total tax rate, the I&S portion, is levied to service debt approved by voters as part of bond elections.

Northwest ISD's fast growth means the district has typically sought voter approval for bond referendums every three to five years to build new schools to accommodate an influx of new students. Northwest ISD remains the fastest-growing school district in North Texas, with more new homes both built and sold than any other district in the region. On average, the district now increases its total enrollment by between 1,400 to 1,600 students per year.



Financial transparency, reporting key to good results

Northwest ISD's financial services team strongly believes transparency and clear, accurate reporting are key to good results. This belief is evident from the fact that the district has been recognized nationally for two decades in these areas.

Thanks to the financial services team's efforts, Northwest ISD has earned financial reporting awards from the Association of School Business Officials and the Government Financial Officers Association for the past 21 years. Additionally, ASBO has awarded Northwest ISD with the Meritorious Budget Award for the past 22 years for its outstanding budget presentations.

Providing taxpayers with information in user-friendly formats that are easy to find remains a top priority, as we believe our public deserves knowledge of how we work efficiently and in its best interests. Financial records are available for public viewing on the financial services website.

FUNDING SOURCES

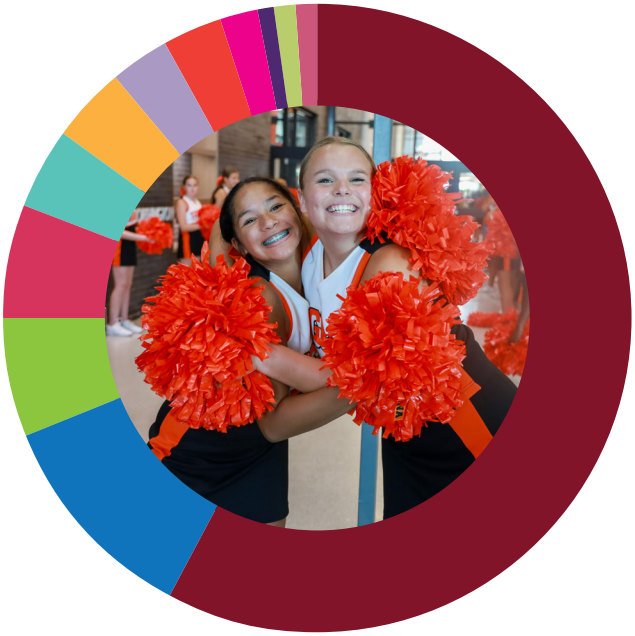


THIS IS WHERE WE GET IT:

Local Sources $289.8M	90%
State Sources $29.1M	9%
Federal Sources $4.1M	1%

THIS IS HOW WE SPEND IT:

Teachers/Aides/Supplies	58¢
Facilities/Maint./Security	11¢
Recapture	6¢
Campus Administration	6¢
Guidance & Counseling	4¢
Transportation	4¢
Co-/Extra-Curricular	3¢
District-Level Support Staff	3¢
Technology	2¢
Instructional Leadership	1¢
Health Services	1¢
Other	1¢



YOUR EDUCATION $1.00

AWARD-WINNING
FINE ARTS PROGRAMS

The Class of 2023 was offered more than $5.3 million in college fine arts scholarships.



The vision of the Northwest ISD fine arts program is to be the premier school district in the state of Texas for the visual and performing arts. The comprehensive fine arts program includes studies in the areas of Art, Band, Cheerleading, Choir, Color/Winter Guard, Dance, Debate, Elementary Music, Music Theory, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Speech and Theatre.



160 teachers serve more than 28,000 students who receive instruction in the fine arts each week.





Some of the year's highlights include:

- Northwest ISD was named a Best Community for Music Education
- Northwest ISD was named a Texas Art Educators Association District of Distinction
- Students from all seven Northwest ISD middle schools were involved in the annual Middle School Musical performance, *Little Mermaid, Jr.*
- District fine arts programs received more than **$600,000** in grants in 10-year span
- More than **350 students** selected to band, choir or orchestra all-region process
- Fourteen art students advanced to TAEA State VASE event
- Twelve students were selected to the TMEA All-State music ensembles
- All high school fine arts programs performed school-wide Broadway musicals
- The **Dazzlers**, **Sapphires** and **Sidekicks** dance teams each performed in a state or national competition, earning top marks including two Grand Championships
- **Northwest High School** JV Drill Team won Grand Champions at Showtime International
- **Byron Nelson**, **Eaton** and **Northwest** bands earned Division 1 ratings from all judges at UIL Region 2 Marching Band Contest
- District middle school One Act Play festival
- Five fine arts groups (choir, band, orchestra, etc.) were National Winners or Commended Winners in The Foundation for Music Education's Mark of Excellence contests
- Northwest ISD Middle School Dance Team performed a district-wide showcase
- All 10 Northwest ISD middle and high school bands combined to perform at the annual Northwest ISD Band Showcase at NISD Stadium
- Students and squads from across the district also came together for the NISD Cheer Showcase, NISD Dance Showcase, as well as NISD band and orchestra concerts
- Multiple musical theatre programs and students were nominated at the Broadway Dallas and Betty Buckley Awards
- **Byron Nelson High School** placed second, and **Eaton High School** placed third in the UIL Spirit State Championships for cheerleading
- **Steele Early College High School** competed in UIL One Act Play for the first time in school history
- *Permanent Flux*, a student rock band at **Steele Early College High School**, performed at numerous school events
- *Voices of NISD* 4th, 5th and 6th grade Honor Choir performed



HONORING
IMPACT AND LEGACY

At Northwest ISD, we value the important contributions community members, staff and alumni make to our district and our schools as they embody the districts mission, vision and beliefs. In August 2022, the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees established the inaugural class of the NISD Legacy Wall, honoring individuals who have left a positive mark on district students and serving to inspire teachers and staff to do the same. Located in the Legacy Learning Center, formerly Haslet Elementary School, the Legacy Wall honors the heritage and history of Northwest ISD's community.

Trustees approved all five committee-recommended nominees for the Legacy Wall, including:

Mehran Aghili: In his role in Northwest ISD, Mehran Aghili oversaw construction and played a major role in providing students with high-quality facilities. He also supported student programs and was willing and eager to work with engineering students to provide feedback on their plans.

MacKenzie Dunckelman: As a longtime Northwest ISD student and Eaton High School graduate, MacKenzie Dunckelman was part of the first class of the Horizons program in the Legacy Learning Center. She was known for her smile and laughter, which was infectious and drew everyone to her.

Mays Fuqua: As a Northwest ISD educator of more than 30 years, Mays Fuqua was known for his ability to do anything and everything in the education field to help students. He was active in the ag program and later became a counselor and assistant superintendent.

Dennis McCreary: As assistant superintendent for facilities, Dennis McCreary set the model for Northwest ISD schools. He was known for setting an expectation of excellence in district buildings to give students the best learning environments possible.

1949-1950 School Board: Honored as a group, the first Northwest ISD Board of Trustees set the foundation for the school district as it exists today. Their leadership paved the way for students to have tremendous opportunities thanks to the larger scope of Northwest ISD. Members of the first school board include: Leo Adams, Claude Calvert, F.A. Cowart, V.R. Eaton, John D. Faught, O.A. Peterson and J.C. Thompson.

These individuals received plaques on the Legacy Wall during the Legacy Learning Center's formal dedication ceremony in September 2022. Family members of those recognized had the opportunity to speak in remembrance of each honoree and received a plaque to commemorate their honor.

NISD PARTNERS WITH CHARLES SCHWAB TO PROVIDE **HANDS-ON FINANCIAL LITERACY** EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS

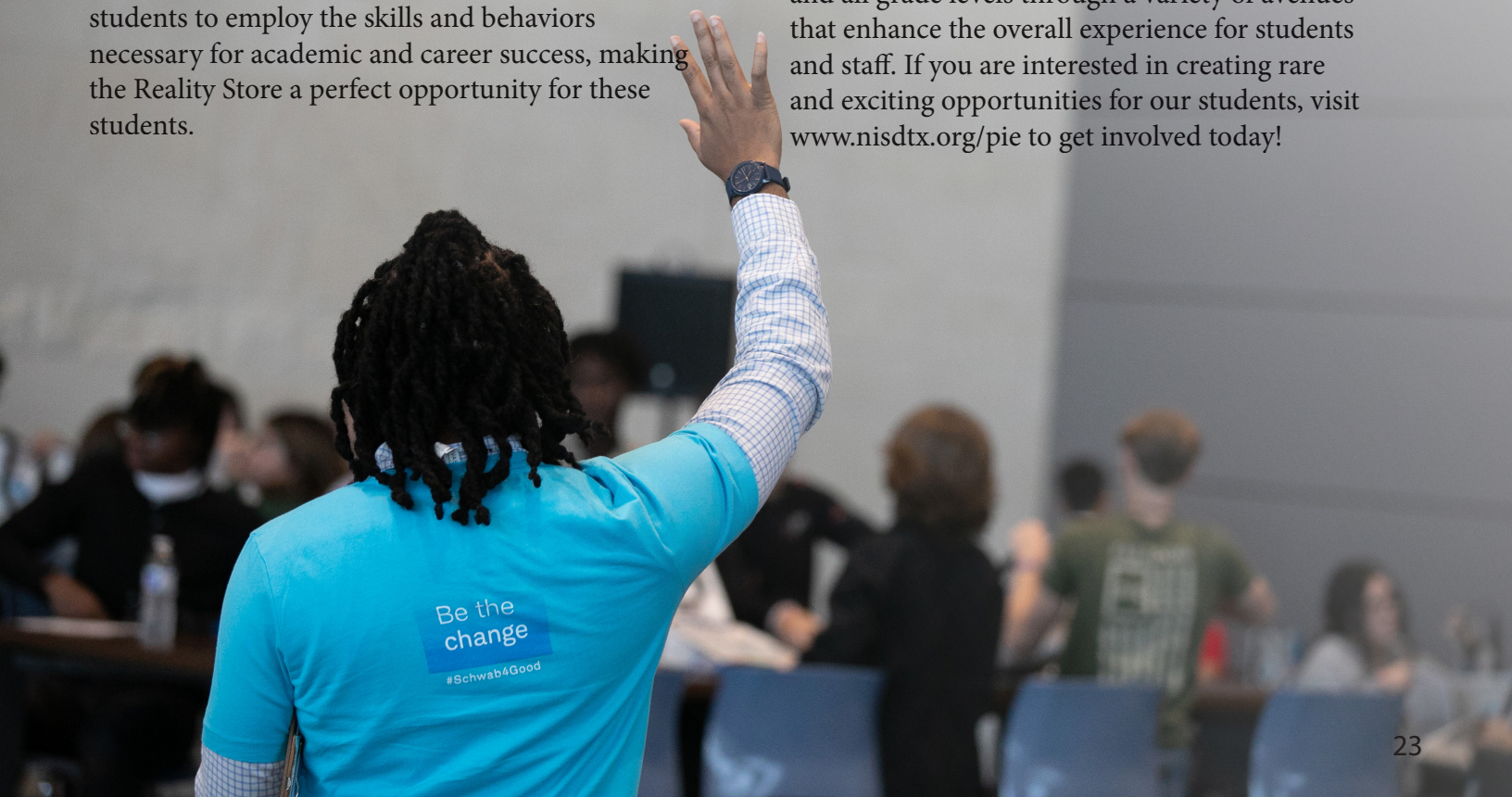
At Northwest ISD, students are encouraged to find and follow their passions at school, where they receive instruction to prepare them for wherever life takes them after they graduate. As one of the fastest-growing school districts in the state, companies are packing up and moving in daily to call our 234 square miles home. NISD strives to partner with these community businesses and organizations to provide real world experiences for our students that will set them apart from their peers.

Fortune 500 company Charles Schwab moved its headquarters from San Francisco to Westlake in 2020, creating a rare opportunity for a district partnership. Thanks to a grant made possible by the Northwest ISD Education Foundation, the district was able to join arms with Charles Schwab as part of their Schwab For Good campaign to provide a "Reality Store" experience for nearly 200 NISD AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students. AVID provides intensive personal achievement support while teaching students to employ the skills and behaviors necessary for academic and career success, making the Reality Store a perfect opportunity for these students.

The Charles Schwab Reality Store is an opportunity like no other that allows students the hands on experience to learn how to budget from the professionals themselves. Students are given a monthly salary and then visit different stations such as housing, insurance and food to determine how they want to prioritize their money. Schwab employees talk students through their options at each station and remind them of their goal to end the experience with a balanced budget.

After the reality store experience, students are given a private tour of the new state-of-the-art Charles Schwab headquarters. As students are immersed into the world of financial education, their eyes are opened to new and exciting opportunities for the future. As evidenced by this program, partnerships with the community directly impact the growth and success of students and staff in Northwest ISD.

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program exists to engage businesses, organizations and communities with classrooms at each campus and all grade levels through a variety of avenues that enhance the overall experience for students and staff. If you are interested in creating rare and exciting opportunities for our students, visit www.nisdtx.org/pie to get involved today!



PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO **MEET STUDENT NEEDS**

Northwest ISD creates school-support opportunities for businesses, organizations and the community with classrooms at each campus and all grade levels through a variety of avenues that enhance the overall experience for students and staff. See how you can become involved by visiting www.nisdtx.org/pie.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the district and its 31 campuses raised approximately $397,924.39, which went directly to students and district schools to support needs and elevate learning experiences.

Northwest ISD's annual **Angel Tree** program made history in 2022 by fulfilling holiday wishes for **1,540 angels**, the most in the programs existence. Through anonymous donations, this charitable program is one of the biggest of its kind run by a school district in the nation. This event wouldn't be possible without the support of our community. Nearly **900 individual donors** contributed to the program, with **145 volunteers** giving their time to ensure every child on the Angel Tree received gifts.



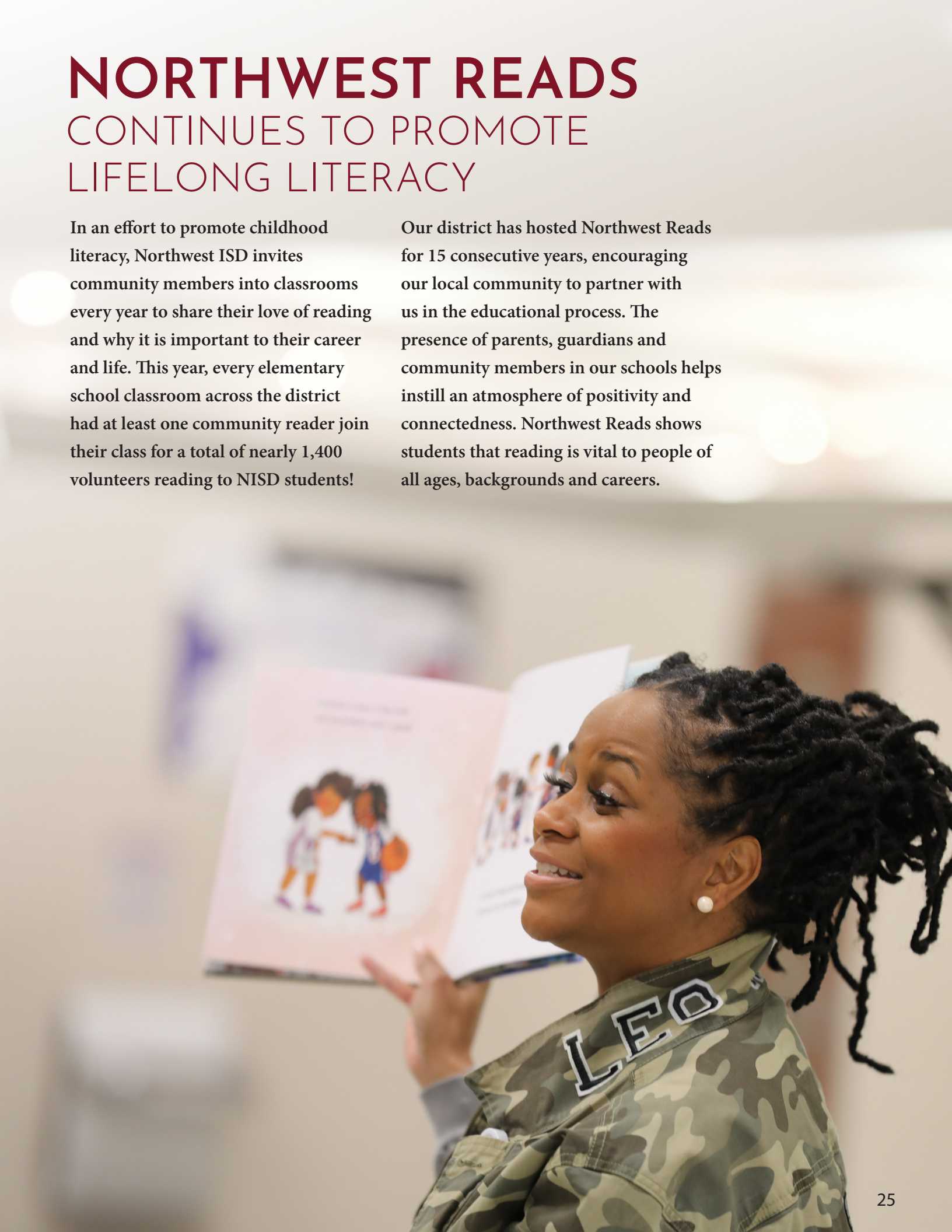


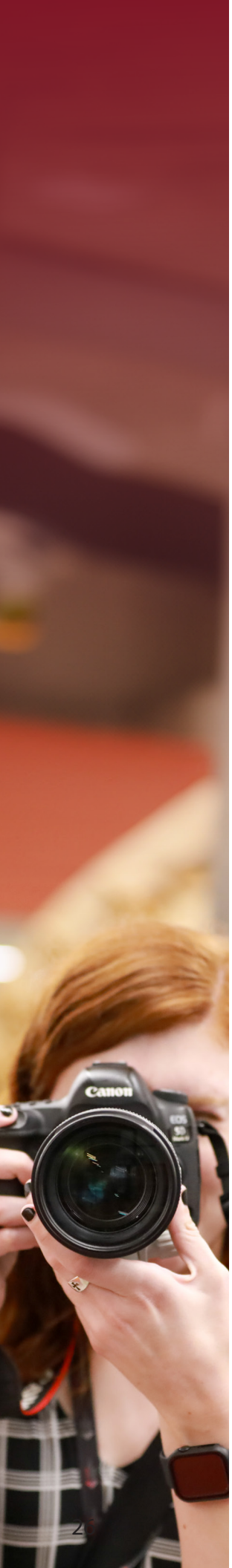
In 2022, NISD partnered with Amazon to host the district's annual **Back-to-School Fair**. This event provided school supplies, backpacks and community resources for nearly **1,600 students**. Each student had the opportunity to receive a haircut, dental screening, vision screening, hearing screening, sports physical, immunizations and a community fair that featured more than **30 vendors** with local resources and information.

NORTHWEST READS
CONTINUES TO PROMOTE LIFELONG LITERACY

In an effort to promote childhood literacy, Northwest ISD invites community members into classrooms every year to share their love of reading and why it is important to their career and life. This year, every elementary school classroom across the district had at least one community reader join their class for a total of nearly 1,400 volunteers reading to NISD students!

Our district has hosted Northwest Reads for 15 consecutive years, encouraging our local community to partner with us in the educational process. The presence of parents, guardians and community members in our schools helps instill an atmosphere of positivity and connectedness. Northwest Reads shows students that reading is vital to people of all ages, backgrounds and careers.





THE IMPORTANCE OF QUICK, ACCURATE COMMUNICATION

Northwest ISD families deserve to know what happens in our schools. Our district believes in transparency and proactive communication to keep families informed and aware of important events and news affecting their children.

Families can expect to receive regular communication through Northwest News, a twice-monthly email newsletter with district updates, as well as Board Notes, a recap of board meeting activity that most affects families. Additionally, standalone updates are sent as needed through ParentSquare to keep families informed and engaged on timely topics.

In the 2023 Family Survey, respondents ranked district communications among the top-rated categories. More than 84% of respondents expressed satisfaction with district communications, and only 5% expressed dissatisfaction.

More than 35,000 individuals receive regular communication from our school district, and our social media similarly reaches tens of thousands of users. Families and community members are encouraged to reach out to the district on their platform of choice with any questions or concerns.

ParentSquare

ParentSquare streamlines communication for families

In Northwest ISD, the district, schools and teachers use ParentSquare to communicate with families. Typically, communication at a classroom, school or district level will use ParentSquare to reach families. ParentSquare allows families to choose how they want to receive communication, including email, text message, phone call and smartphone app.

By default, all families receive digest – or recap – email and text messages at 6 p.m. daily, eliminating the clutter caused by dozens of messages. Families can set ParentSquare to only send in certain formats – such as only email or text – and turn notifications to instant, if desired, so they see posts from the sender as soon as it's published. Additionally, families can sort by student, school and other options to easily view different posts.

All families are sent registration emails at the start of the school year, but they can also register without this message. Families can click the link that accompanies any ParentSquare message to create an account tied to their district registration information.

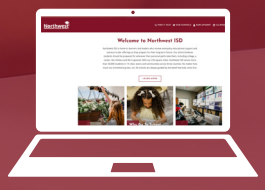
SURVEY SAYS

In the 2023 Family Survey, Northwest ISD families ranked how they preferred to receive communication from the school district.

29%
TEXT MESSAGES

28%
PARENT SQUARE

19%
EMAIL NEWSLETTER



8%
WEBSITE



3%
PRINTED MATERIALS

2%
VIDEOS

NORTHWEST ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Empowering Educators
Engaging the Community
Encouraging Future-Ready Students

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation (NEF) provides financial support to enhance education in Northwest Independent School District. NEF prides itself on funding programs that make a meaningful difference in the lives of students and teachers.

Teaching Grants:

Empowering NISD educators to take a more creative approach to education to positively impact students.

Student Scholarships:

Encouraging NISD seniors to continue their path to success, even after they leave the district.

District Initiatives:

Supporting immediate needs of students and teachers through programs like the resource store and library, in addition to celebrating the exemplary efforts of hard-working teachers.





For more information about the foundation, visit www.nisdtx.org/nef.

the IMPACT



Awarded 28 teaching grants across 17 campuses totaling $73,000

Class of 2023 received 95 scholarships totaling $163,000

Every NISD campus utilized the resource store and library with a total of $135,000 in resources provided to educators for free

Funded $4,300 in monetary awards to the NISD Teachers of the Year, Teacher of the Year Finalists, and Employees of the Year

NEF, in partnership with NISD and Tarrant Area Food Bank, hosted a monthly food pantry that served 2,342 households (11,673 individuals total)

More than 5,000 snack packs and 4,300 books were distributed to K-5 students in summer learning

NEF partnered with NISD PTA organizations to raise more than $13,000 for schools across the district

Encouraged literacy at every level across the district

- NEF donated a book to every kindergarten student in Northwest ISD to kick off their educational journey
- Sponsored NISD Book Blitz program at all high schools and the Bilingual Spelling Bee



NISD

Northwest Independent School District

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UPDATED 2023